

Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 182409 TOSEC 080074

E.O. 11652:GDS

TAGS: OGEN

SUBJECT: AUGUST 3 CABLE HIGHLIGHTS

FOLLOWING ARE CABLE HIGHLIGHTS FOR AUGUST 3, 1977:

1. MAKARIOS' DEATH: POSSIBLE SUCCESSORS.

EMBASSY NICOSIA IS "FAIRLY CONFIDENT" THAT THE NEXT PRESIDENT WILL BE AMONG THE FOLLOWING CANDIDATES: TASSOS PAPADOPOULOS, PRESENT GREEK CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR; GLAFOS CLERIDES, LEADER OF THE DEMOCRATIC RALLY PARTY AND FORMER GREEK CYPRIOT NEGOTIATOR; SPYROS KYRIANOU, LEADER OF THE LARGEST PARTY IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE DEMOCRATIC PARTY; AND PASCALIS PASCALIDES, A PROMINENT BUSINESSMAN AND SAID TO BE MAKARIOS' PERSONAL CHOICE. THE OVERWHELMING FAVORITE TO TAKE OVER AS ARCHBISHOP IS CHRISOSTOMOS, THE CURRENT BISHOP OF PAPHOS. (NICOSIA 2023, CONFIDENTIAL)

2. MAKARIOS' DEATH: PROBABLE TURKISH REACTION.

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EMBASSY ANKARA REPORTS TURKEY : HAS ADOPTED A WAIT AND SEE POLICY TO SEE HOW THE SUCCESSION PROBLEM IS SOLVED; HAS STRONG SUSPICIONS THAT GREECE WILL INSTALL A PRO-GREEK

PRO-ENOSIS PRESIDENT; AND, IS NOT LIKELY TO INTERVENE MILITARILY OR AUTHORIZE A UNILATERAL DECLARATION OF INDEPENDENCE BY THE TURKISH CYPRIOTS. THE EMBASSY PRO-

POSES THAT GREECE INITIATE PRIVATE CONSULTATIONS WITH TURKEY ON HOW BEST TO ASSURE A PEACEFUL DEMOCRATIC SUCCESSION. (ANKARA 5795, CONFIDENTIAL)

3. UANC REQUEST FOR AID.

UNITED AFRICAN NATIONAL COUNCIL MILITARY LEADER MUTEMASANGO ACTING AT THE BEHEST OF BISHOP MUZOREWA CALLED AT EMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM ON AUGUST 2 TO: APPEAL FOR US MILITARY, TECHNICAL, AND HUMANITARIAN ASSISTANCE; AND, STATE THAT MUZOREWA PLANNED TO COOPERATE WITH SMITH AND POSSIBLY SITHOLE IN REACHING AN INTERNAL SOLUTION. THE EMBASSY REQUESTS GUIDANCE FOR MUTESANGO'S RETURN VISIT ON AUGUST 5. (DAR ES SALAAM 3111, CONFIDENTIAL)

4. BENIN: SOMETHING IS UP.

IN HIS AUGUST 3 MEETING WITH PRESIDENT EYADEMA, AMBASSADOR PALMER HAD THE DISTINCT FEELING THAT THE TOGOLESE LEADERSHIP WAS PRIVY TO INFORMATION ABOUT POSSIBLE EXTERNAL ACTION AGAINST BENIN. (LOME 2088, SECRET/EXDIS)

5. LIBYA-US: OPENING A DIALOGUE.

LIBYAN FOREIGN SECRETARY TURAYKI ASKED AMBASSADOR CARLE TO CONVEY THE FOLLOWING MESSAGE TO SECRETARY VANCE:
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LIBYA IS TRULY NON-ALIGNED; IT OPPOSES THE SPREAD OF COMMUNISM IN THE ARAB AND THE AFRICAN WORLD; AND, IT WISHES TO OPEN A DIRECT DIALOGUE WITH THE US ON MIDDLE EAST ISSUES. EMBASSY TRIPOLI SPECULATES THAT THE REASON FOR TURAYKI'S "EXTRAORDINARY PITCH" INCLUDE LIBYAN FEARS OF FUTURE EGYPTIAN ACTION CONCERN ABOUT SOVIET AIMS IN AFRICA, AND LIBYAN OVERDEPENDENCE ON THE SOVIETS FOR MATERIAL AND POLITICAL SUPPORT. (TRIPOLI 1026, CONF)

6. POLITICAL REACTION TO THE ANDREOTTI VISIT.

ALL PARTIES OF ITALY'S "CONSTITUTIONAL ARC" APPEAR TO HAVE BEEN GRATIFIED BY THE WARM RECEPTION ACCORDED THE PRIME MINISTER IN WASHINGTON. THE COMMUNIST PARTY (PCI) HAS BEEN MOST ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT WHAT IT CALLS US WILLINGNESS TO REGARD IT WITHOUT "DISCRIMINATION" AND "PRECONDITIONS". THE SMALL LAY PARTIES, HOWEVER, WHILE JUDGING THE VISIT A QUALIFIED SUCCESS, FEAR THAT ANDREOTTI MAY INTERPRET

HIS RECEPTION AS A SANCTION FOR DEVELOPING THE PREFERENTIAL RELATIONSHIP WITH THE PCI AT THE EXPENSE OF THE SMALLER PARTIES. (ROME 12555 LIMITED OFFICIAL USE)

CHRISTOPHER

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